

Liberty, Va -

July 12, 1833.

accurate study of our flora that
at present prevails. I find
that all var. forms not
mentioned in a catalogue are
wholly neglected by exchangers,
& there is considerable confusion
in exchanging with Europeans,
& with those who use the Flora
of that "bold, bad man", P. R. Wood,
- i.e., bold in conception & bad
in execution - also, bold in self-
praise calling his work a "miracle"
of - & - I imagine he will
not like my agreeing very well.

I would have liked your
opinion on many points, but
know you cannot bestow your
time on trifles!

Yours very truly
A. H. Curtis.

Dr. J. A. Gray;

Dear Sir - I intended
to have replied to your letter
of June 30th a week ago, but the
pressure of farm work has
demanded my whole attention.
I intend to arrange things so that
I shall have as much leisure
next year as of former, but
since my father died last
fall, my herbarium work
has fallen sadly behind. The
Herb. I recd from the Torrey
Herb. have not been opened,
& I have a large box on hand
that was packed 14 months ago -
but I think I shall have everything
systematized by the end of next
winter - I am greatly obliged
to you for offering me one of

The African sp. as I have
but little from them I would
like much to obtain it. But
from your letter I conclude
you wish me to send direct
to Macowan - this I fear would
be very expensive & troublesome
to me - Perhaps, however
you may intend to receive
all the return sps. & attend to
their transmission - as one - ?
If the exchange will not cost
me over 10 or 12 dollars, I
will make up for Dr. M. a good
page of Southern & Western
plants & will take care of this
before any other. But I
could not well send a page
before Nov. or Dec. unless
there was a special need of it
sooner - I will try to get seed
of *Carex stenolepis* & *Silene*

Virginica, but may fail.
I send you some of my seed
Catalogues. The work was
prepared a year ago, but
on account of unforeseen
events & the slowness of the
printer (7 mos.), its publication
has been greatly delayed.

Whether well executed or not,
in plan it realizes the ideal I
formed long ago of an exchange
catalogue; I described it to
you once, & expressed the wish
that some one would carry it
into execution. I suppose
you would never in your life
have performed such a piece
of mental drudgery, but being
a very humble worker myself,
I shall feel well satisfied if it
comes into use, for I think
it will lead to a more close and